

May 18, 2005

TO: Chief School Administrators  
Charter School Lead Persons

FROM: Isaac R. Bryant, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Student Services

SUBJECT: Final Adequate Yearly Progress Status for Grades 4, 8, and 11 under the  
*No Child Left Behind* Accountability Requirements - 2004

**Important!**  
**2004 AYP Final Results**  
**Posted on NJDOE Web Site**

In the Fall of 2004, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) sent preliminary adequate yearly progress (AYP) data (*Preliminary Accountability Status Report: 2004* and *Preliminary School Improvement Status Summary*) for the school(s) in your district that did not make AYP, as required under the *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) accountability standards. Based on the data, schools that did not meet the 2004 accountability standards, that is, did not make AYP, were sent confirmation of their status. Since those notifications were issued, final 2004 AYP data, including state assessment results, attendance rate/drop-out rate, and the Alternate Proficiency Assessment (APA) results, have been analyzed.

Final 2004 AYP status, in total and disaggregated by subgroup, is shown on *Final Adequate Yearly Progress Status Under No Child Left Behind Accountability Requirements: 2004* and *Final School Improvement Status Summary* report(s). These final reports are being issued for all schools in your district that participated in the grades 4, 8, and 11 state assessments. Reports for all schools are posted on the NJDOE web site at [www.nj.gov/njded/title1/accountability](http://www.nj.gov/njded/title1/accountability) under "NCLB Reports."

The school reports show the number of indicators met out of the 41 required under the Single Accountability System. In the report listing all 41 indicators, a "yes" identifies which indicators were met, a "no" identifies those that were not met, and a dash (-) indicates the subgroup was not analyzed due to no students or a small number of students (less than the minimum) in that subgroup. The assessment data, in percentages, that support these AYP profile results for each school will be posted on the *NCLB Report Card – 2004*.

The NCLB data conditions used for AYP calculations have been applied to the 2004 state assessment data. Specific details about the NCLB Accountability System are available on the NJDOE web site in the following documents:

- *New Jersey Accountability Workbook* at [www.nj.gov/njded/grants/nclb/workbook.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/njded/grants/nclb/workbook.pdf)
- *Understanding Accountability in New Jersey* at [www.nj.gov/njded/grants/nclb/guidance/understanding.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/njded/grants/nclb/guidance/understanding.pdf)

If after reviewing the final status report and the data for your school(s), you believe the data used are in error, you may submit an appeal to the NJDOE within 30 days of the date of this letter, no later than **June 17, 2005**. Appeals submitted after this date will **NOT** be considered. Appeals may be filed based on a statistical error or other substantive reasons by submitting the following:

- The attached Data Appeal form.
- A letter that clearly identifies the reasons for the appeal.
- Corrected data with the source.

The NJDOE's web postings, including information about the NCLB accountability requirements for the three assessment grades, are available to the media and to the general public. The assessment data and the status reports are considered public information and should be shared with each school principal, other staff, the board of education, and constituents.

Your continued commitment to ensure that all students in New Jersey meet high standards is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or need further information about the NCLB single accountability requirements, please contact the Office of Title I Program Planning and Accountability at (609) 943-4283.

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Attachments

c:      Members, State Board of Education  
         William L. Librera  
         Dwight Pfennig  
         J. Michael Rush  
         Senior Staff  
         Kathryn Forsyth  
         Suzanne Ochse  
         Diane Schonyers  
         Erika Leak  
         County Superintendents  
         LEE Group  
         Garden State Coalition of Schools